

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /064 W
-----097149 282026Z /75

O R 281812Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5269

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1193

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDIP,PGOV, SC, US

SUBJ: ILLNESS OF ST. KITTS PREMIER BRADSHAW STEADILY
WORSENS

1. MEDIA REPORTS AND PERSONAL REMARKS FROM KNOWLEDGABLE SOURCES
DURING LAST SEVERAL DAYS INDICATE THAT ST. KITTS-NEVIS
PREMIER ROBERT BRADSHAW, WHO UNDERWENT SURGERY IN LONDON IN
JANUARY, IS NOT EXPECTED TO RECOVER FROM HIS SURGERY AND IS
DRIFTING IN AND OUT OF A COMA. DEPUTY PREMIER PAUL SOUTHWELL
IS REPORTED AS SAYING THAT BRADSHAW IS QUOTE NOW IN THE HANDS
OF GOD UNQUOTE.

2. BARBADOS EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINNISTER HENRY FORDE TOLD EMBOFFS
APRIL 28 THAT BECAUSE OF BRADSHAW'S LONG HISTORY OF WORK FOR
CARIBBEAN UNITY, HE EXPECTED THAT THE PRIME MINISTERS OF
BARBADOS, JAMAICA AND GUYANA WOULD CERTAINLY ATTEND A STATE
FUNERAL IN ST. KITS. HE DOUBTED PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS WOULD
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ATTEND. FORDE SAID THE ATTENDANCE QUESTION
WAS RAISED AT THE GOB CABINET MEETING APRIL 27.

3. BRADSHAW, WHO IS NOW 61-YEARS OLD, HAS SERVED IN THE
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT IN ST. KITTS SINCE
1946, A FACT THAT GIVES HIM THE RECORD FOR CONSECUTIVE
SERVICE AMONG EASTERN CARIBBEAN POLITICAL LEADERS. WHILE

HE HAS BEEN BETTER KNOWN IN RECENT YEARS AS AN INTRACTIBLE MAN ON ISSUES INVOLVING ANGUILLA AND NEVIS, THE SMALL ISLANDS IN POLITICAL ASSOCIATION WITH ST. KITTS, HE IS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO REGIONALISM. BRADSHAW BECAME TREASURER OF THE WEST INDIES FEDERATION FROM 1958-62 AND WAS A LEADING FORCE IN THE FORMATION OF CARIFTA AND CARICOM.

4. ACTION REQUIRED: IN MY CAPACITY AS U.S. SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSOCIATED STATES, I HAVE CONTINGENCY PLANS TO ATTEND A STATE FUNERAL AND TO SEND MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE TO THE WIDOW AND THE ACTING PREMIER. A MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY IS REQUIRED. I ALSO EXPECT THE GOVERNOR OF THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS AND POSSIBLY OF PUERTO RICO MIGHT BE INVITED TO ATTEND FUNERUL CEREMONIES AND WOULD CONSIDER THEIR PRESENCE APPROPRIATE. PLEASE ADVISE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON CONTINGENCY BASIS.

5. ANALYSIS OF POST-BRADSHAW ST. KITTS-NEVIS WILL FOLLOW WHEN APPROPRIATE.
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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, TBIO, SC, US, (BRADSHAW, ROBERT)
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